

REMARKS

Claims 10-15 have been cancelled. Claims 16, 18-21 and 23-25 have been amended. Claims 26-29 have been added. Claims 16, 18-21 and 23-29 remain for further consideration. No new matter has been added.

The objections and rejections shall be taken up in the order presented in the Official Action.

The indication that claims 16, 18-21 and 23-25 contain allowable subject matter is noted and appreciated.

1-2. Claims 10-12 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 for allegedly being obvious in view of the combined subject matter disclosed in U.S. Patent 5,535,440 to Clappier (hereinafter “Clappier”) and U.S. Patent 5,361,404 to Dent (hereinafter “Dent”).

Claims 10-12 have been cancelled.

3. Claims 13-15 currently stand rejected under 35 U.S.C. §103 for allegedly being obvious in view of the combined subject matter disclosed in Clappier, Dent and U.S. Patent 5,777,693 to Kishigami et al (hereinafter “Kishigami”).

Claims 13-15 have been cancelled.

For all the foregoing reasons, reconsideration and allowance of claims 16, 18-21 and 23-29 is respectfully requested.

If a telephone interview could assist in the prosecution of this application, please call the undersigned attorney.

Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Patrick O'Shea". The signature is written in dark ink and is positioned above the printed name.

Patrick J. O'Shea

Reg. No. 35,305

O'Shea, Getz & Kosakowski, P.C.

1500 Main Street, Suite 912

Springfield, MA 01115

(413) 731-3100, Ext. 102